



NRC NEWS

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive - Suite 400
Arlington, TX 76011-4005

No. IV-04-015
Contact: Victor Dricks
Phone: 817-860-8128

March 24, 2004
E-Mail: opa4@nrc.gov

NRC TO MEET WITH WOLF CREEK NUCLEAR OPERATING CO. TO DISCUSS PERFORMANCE OF WOLF CREEK NUCLEAR PLANT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with representatives of Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Co., on Tuesday, April 6, to discuss the results of the agency's annual assessment of safety performance at the Wolf Creek nuclear plant. The facility is located near Burlington, Kansas.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at Burlington High School's multimedia room (west entrance) 830 Cross Street, Burlington. The public is invited to observe the meeting and NRC officials will be available before the conclusion of the meeting to answer questions from the public on the safety performance of the plant.

The performance period to be discussed is January 1 to December 31, 2003. In addition, the NRC staff will provide an overview of how the agency's Reactor Oversight Process works.

A March 3 letter from the NRC to Wolf Creek officials addresses the performance of the plant during this period and will serve as the basis for the meeting discussion. It is available at: http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/wc_2003q4.pdf.

Overall, the plant operated safely last year, and fully met all cornerstone objectives (cornerstones are measures of plant performance).

With regard to security issues, the letter points out that the NRC has issued several orders and threat advisories to enhance security capabilities and improve guard force readiness since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. The agency has also conducted inspections to review the implementation of these requirements and has monitored the action of plant operators in response to changing threat conditions. The NRC will continue security inspections during 2004.

Current performance indicators for Wolf Creek are available on the NRC web site at:
http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/WC/wc_chart.html .

###